

Office Eagle appreciates its customers



Story and photos by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

A festive atmosphere greeted customers and guests to the Aberdeen Proving Ground Office Eagle stores' Customer Appreciation Day celebrations May 22 and 23.

At the APG store, Office Eagle employees dressed as clowns mingled with visitors, there was a dunking booth, and the vendor displays of supplies and equipment available in the store included carnival-like games guests could play for prizes. Guests also signed free raffle tickets for chances to win prizes that included DVD players, keyboards and other office equipment.

"This is a great turnout," said store manager Barry Council. "We try to do this every year for the community which supports Office Eagle throughout the year."

Council thanked the caterer "Where Pigs Fly" of Dover, Del., which provided a free lunch of pit chicken or pork sandwiches, baked beans, salads, chips, desserts, sodas and bottled water.

Visitors and vendors seemed to enjoy themselves.

Vendor displays ranged from standard office equipment to cutting edge technologies.

The Avery office products and Envision displays featured labels, dividers and zip lock, trash, and bio-degradable medical environmental trash bags while sales representative Mike Edwards, representing several companies, featured XGO military layered shirts, protective eyewear and assault gloves.

"All of our supplies are sold in the Office Eagle stores," said Weldon Walker, national account manager for Avery Office Products.

Envision representative Kathie Goode said that like most of the companies that do business with Office Eagle, her company provides jobs and other resources for the blind.

"My main job is to go out and get orders to bring in more people," said John MacDonald, sales manager for Delaware Industries for the Blind whose display featured picture frames, plaques, pen sets and embroidered logos.

"The more people buy, the more people I can hire," he said.

"This is just what I'm looking for," said Brenda



Kathleen Belsan, Directorate of Information Management LogSec Team, right, gets her raffle ticket from employee Ruth Bordmann, left, during the Office Eagle Customer Appreciation Day celebration at building 320 May 22.

Kauffman of the U.S. Army Research Laboratory as she looked over an Ark II Emergency Survival Kit at the South Texas Lighthouse for the Blind display which included an Electrolyte Replacement Drink Mix.

Kauffman said she tries not to miss the customer appreciation days and that the kits would come in handy during her office's upcoming partnership training.

Other participants included Grainger Industrial & Commercial Supply; ABM Computer and Imaging Supplies; the MSC-Ind. Supply Company; Skilcraft; Thomas Scientific and State Industrials.

Products available for sale through Office Eagle stores are primarily items provided to the federal government under the AbilityOne (formerly the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Act, or JWOD), a mandatory source of supply for all federal government employees. These products are manufactured by

non-profit agencies throughout the United States that employ people who are blind or have other severe disabilities.

Blind Industries is able to offer products that deliver both quality and value while also employing people who are blind and visually impaired. In addition to selling the products they manufacture, Blind Industries is also a direct source for JWOD, SKILCRAFT and Commercial products that are made across the country by Americans who are blind.

Blind Industries operates five Office Eagle Supply Center Stores on military installations throughout Maryland, Delaware, Kentucky and the District of Columbia. These stores provide a full range of quality office supplies, tools, cleaning supplies and military clothing items to satisfy same day requirements with next-day availability/delivery of non-stocked products.



From the top, protective eyewear, tactical gloves, plaques and trophies, supply catalogs, notebooks, logos, laboratory supplies, vise grips and keyboards are only some of the products and services available at Office Eagle stores.

RDECOM

From front page

Nadeau thanked all in attendance particularly the two busloads of eCYBERMISSION youths, winners of the national science learning program supported by RDECOM organizations, from around the country.

"They are the best of the best in the nation and I'm really going to miss being involved with them," Nadeau said.

He expressed thanks to everyone who supported APG or worked for RDECOM organizations, including employees, contractors, service members, and their families; in particular Garrison commander Col. John T. Wright and his wife Tammy, the RDECOM and AMC headquarters staff members, organizational leaders and county and state officials.

He gave special thanks to former and current members of the command suite staff, including former RDECOM Command Sgt. Maj. Eloy Alcivar who he said, "Just silently made sure that things got done around here," and to his current and former aides, Capt. Brian Hoffman and Maj. Jack Kredon.

"It is with great pride and much reluctance that I give this flag to you," Nadeau told Robinson. "I'm very proud of what this team has accomplished. I envy you the challenges facing you, and I wish you well."

Robinson said that he already has "a growing appreciation for the remarkable work done [at APG] by a remarkable workforce."

"It is with great honor that I accept the colors of this command," he said.

He thanked everyone that "worked so hard to put on this ceremony" and asked all to "keep our Soldiers and their families in your thoughts and prayers."

Chaplain (Maj.) Fred D. MacLean offered the invocation and the U.S. Army

Ordnance Mechanical Maintenance School salute battery conducted a howitzer gun salute.

The 389th Army Band (AMC's Own) provided music for the ceremony which included the new Song of the Army Materiel Command, "Arsenal for the Brave," written by band members Sgt. 1st Class Robert Bauerle and Spc. Amanda Justice.

In addition, the new RDECOM logo appeared for the first time on the cover of the program. Known as the RDECOM 'angel fish,' the logo was designed by Kim Wilson and Katie Everett.



Photos by SEAN KIEF, GARRISON PHOTOGRAPHER
Gen. Benjamin S. Griffin, commander of the U.S. Army Materiel Command, left, passes the RDECOM colors to Maj. Gen. Fred D. Robinson Jr., incoming commander of APG and RDECOM.



The U.S. Army Ordnance Mechanical Maintenance School salute battery fires a salute during the playing of Honors to the Nation by the 389th Army Band (AMC's Own).

Maj. Gen. Fred D. (Doug) Robinson Jr. Commander of APG and RDECOM

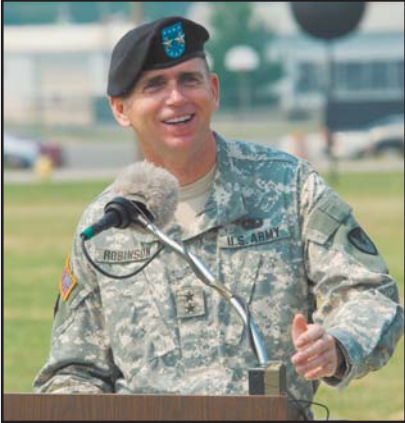
Robinson was commissioned a second lieutenant in 1976 after graduating from the University of Tennessee at Martin. He holds a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering and master's degrees in systems engineering from Memphis State University and National Security and Strategic Studies from the National Defense University. His military education includes the Armor Officer basic and advanced courses, the Army Command and General Staff College and the National War College.

Past assignments include 2nd Armored Division, Fort Hood, Texas; 3rd Infantry Division, U.S. Army Europe; 1st Infantry Division, Fort Riley, Ks; and executive officer of the 2nd Battalion, 69th Armor during Operation Desert Shield/Storm.

In addition, he served as the deputy director for operations at the National Military Command Center; as commander of the U.S. Army Operational Test Command, Fort Hood, Texas; division commander for maneuver, 1st Armored Division; Director of Operations, Readiness and Mobilization, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, G3/5/7; and commanding general, 1st Armored Division, Wiesbaden, Germany.

Robinson's awards and decorations include the Distinguished Service Medal; the Defense Superior Service Medal; the Legion of Merit; the Bronze Star Medal; and the Defense Meritorious Service Medal as well as the Meritorious Service Medal; Army Commendation Medal; National Defense Service Medal; Southwest Asia Service Medal; Kuwait Liberation Medals (Saudi Arabia and Kuwait); the Parachutist Badge; the Joint Chiefs of Staff Identification Badge; and the Army Staff Identification Badge.

Robinson is married to his wife of 33 years, Reva and they have two adult children, Megan and Matt.



APG News

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